

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A machine tool comprising:

a fixed bed;

5 at least one tool post mounted on said fixed bed on a side
closer to an operator;

at least one carriage mounted on said tool post;

10 a headstock provided on a side of said fixed bed farther
from the operator, so that a workpiece disposed in said headstock
is subjected to a cutting process by moving at least one of said
at least one carriage and said at least one tool post relative to
the workpiece; and

15 a headstock base having said headstock disposed thereon, the
headstock base being structured and arranged so as to be movable
between a workpiece machining position where the workpiece can be
machined at a position farther from the operator and a workpiece
loading and unloading position where the workpiece can be loaded
and unloaded at a position closer to the operator.

20 2. The machine tool according to claim 1, further
comprising a chip collecting opening in said fixed bed adjacent
to said at least one carriage and said headstock when said
headstock is positioned in the workpiece machining position.

3. The machine tool according to claim 2, wherein said fixed bed further comprises a tunnel formed therein, the tunnel communicating with said chip collecting opening and extends rearwardly away from the operator, whereby chips that have fallen into said chip collecting opening can be collected through the tunnel.

4. The machine tool according to claim 1, wherein said at least one carriage comprises two carriages, one of said carriages being disposed on a left side of said fixed bed and the other of said carriages being disposed on a right side of said fixed bed, said headstock being disposable at a central location between said carriages.

5. The machine tool according to claim 4, further comprising a chip collecting opening in said fixed bed between said carriages and said headstock when said headstock is positioned in the workpiece machining position.

6. The machine tool according to claim 5, wherein said fixed bed further comprises a tunnel formed therein, the tunnel communicating with said chip collecting opening and extends rearwardly away from the operator, whereby chips that have fallen

into said chip collecting opening can be collected through the tunnel.

7. A machine tool comprising:

5 a fixed bed;

a pair of tool posts mounted on said fixed bed on a side closer to an operator;

a carriage mounted on each of said tool posts;

10 a headstock provided on a side of said fixed bed farther from the operator, so that a workpiece disposed in said headstock is subjected to a cutting process by moving said carriages and said tool posts relative to the workpiece; and

15 a headstock base having said headstock disposed thereon, the headstock base being structured and arranged so as to be movable between a workpiece machining position where the workpiece can be machined at a position farther from the operator and a workpiece loading and unloading position where the workpiece can be loaded and unloaded at a position closer to the operator.

20 8. The machine tool according to claim 7, wherein one of said carriages is disposed on a left side of said fixed bed and the other of said carriages is disposed on a right side of said fixed bed, said headstock being disposable at a central location between said carriages.

9. The machine tool according to claim 8, further comprising a chip collecting opening in said fixed bed between said carriages and said headstock when said headstock is positioned in the workpiece machining position.

10. The machine tool according to claim 9, wherein said fixed bed further comprises a tunnel formed therein, the tunnel communicating with said chip collecting opening and extends rearwardly away from the operator, whereby chips that have fallen into said chip collecting opening can be collected through the tunnel.

11. A machine tool comprising:

- a fixed bed;
- a pair of tool posts mounted on said fixed bed on a side closer to an operator;
- a carriage mounted on each of said tool posts;
- a headstock provided on a side of said fixed bed farther from the operator, so that a workpiece disposed in said headstock is subjected to a cutting process by moving said carriages and said tool posts relative to the workpiece;
- a headstock base having said headstock disposed thereon, the headstock base being structured and arranged so as to be movable

between a workpiece machining position where the workpiece can be machined at a position farther from the operator and a workpiece loading and unloading position where the workpiece can be loaded and unloaded at a position closer to the operator;

5 a chip collecting opening in said fixed bed between said carriages and said headstock when said headstock is positioned in the workpiece machining position; and

 said fixed bed includes a tunnel formed therein, the tunnel communicating with said chip collecting opening and extends
10 rearwardly away from the operator, whereby chips that have fallen into said chip collecting opening can be collected through the tunnel.